



Los Angeles County Regional Park And Open Space District

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November 12, 2014

The Honorable Board of Directors
County of Los Angeles
Regional Park and Open Space District
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Directors:

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

5-P November 12, 2014

Sachi A. Hamai
SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**ALLOCATE COUNTY EXCESS FUNDS AVAILABLE TO
THE FIRST SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT AND AUTHORIZE AWARD
AND ADMINISTRATION OF A GRANT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
AND RECREATION FOR THE BENJAMIN DOMINGUEZ CONCRETE
PLAY SCULPTURES GENERAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT
(FIRST DISTRICT)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate \$100,000 in County Excess Funds, available to the First Supervisorial District, pursuant to the Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996, to the Department of Parks and Recreation for general improvements of the existing Benjamin Dominguez Concrete Play Sculptures at Whittier Narrows Recreation Area.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Find the proposed Benjamin Dominguez Concrete Play Sculptures General Improvements Project categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act for the reasons stated herein and the reasons reflected in the record of the project.
2. Allocate an amount not to exceed \$100,000 in County Excess Funds, available to the First Supervisorial District, to the Department of Parks and Recreation for the proposed Benjamin Dominguez Concrete Play Sculptures General Improvements Project.
3. Authorize the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, in his capacity as the Director

of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, to award a grant to the Department of Parks and Recreation when applicable conditions have been met, and to administer the grant as of the date of this action and pursuant to procedures in the Procedural Guide for Specified, Per Parcel, and Excess Funds Projects; otherwise, funds shall remain in the Excess Funds account.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate an amount not to exceed \$100,000 in County Excess Funds, available to the First Supervisorial District, pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996 (1996 Proposition) , to the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) for the proposed Benjamin Dominguez Concrete Play Sculptures General Improvements Project (Project).

The proposed Project is located at Whittier Narrows Recreation Area at 823 Lexington Gallatin Road in South El Monte. The scope of work will consist of the rehabilitation of six concrete play sculptures, including lead abatement and historic restoration of the concrete finish and paint, and replacement of the surface, borders, paving, and adjacent picnic tables and installation of signage.

The overall project cost is estimated at \$163,000. The recommended County Excess Funds will be supplemented with \$63,000 in Enhanced Park Services Measure U funds.

It is also recommended that the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation (Director), in his capacity as Director of the Los Angeles Regional Park and Open Space District, be authorized to award a grant when applicable conditions have been met. Applicable conditions include grantee qualifications, consistency between the project and requirements of the 1996 Proposition, and grantee's agreement with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements for the project, if applicable. It is further recommended that the Director be authorized to administer the grant pursuant to the Procedural Guide previously approved by the Board.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended action will further the Board-approved County Strategic Plan Goal of Operational Effectiveness/Fiscal Sustainability (Goal 1) by providing recreational activities in the First Supervisorial District.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Sufficient appropriation for the grant in the amount of \$100,000 is budgeted in the First Supervisorial District's portion of Regional Park and Open Space District's (RPOSD) Excess Funds Project Fund, HD6.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The 1996 Proposition requires that agencies to which funds were allocated under the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996 encumber all such funds prior to receiving grants of Excess Funds. DPR has met this requirement.

The 1996 Proposition provides a method for determining each fiscal year the amount of funds

available in the following fiscal year to fund capital improvement projects in addition to the amounts specifically identified for projects in the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996. The Project will be funded from the Excess Funds available to the First Supervisorial District for County projects.

The Board may establish additional conditions on grants of Excess Funds. The Director would be authorized to award the grant when all applicable conditions have been met. Any funds allocated by the Board, but not encumbered by award of a grant contract in the same fiscal year, shall be available for allocation by the Board in the following fiscal year.

On June 2, 2009, the Board approved the Procedural Guide for governing the administration of RPOSD grants. The Procedural Guide will also appropriately govern the administration of the recommended additional grants.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

All public agency projects funded by the RPOSD are required to comply with the CEQA as a condition of the grant. The lead agency is responsible for preparing the appropriate environmental documentation for the Project. The County is the lead agency for the proposed Project.

The proposed Project is categorically exempt from the CEQA. The Project, which consists of rehabilitation of six concrete play sculptures, including lead abatement and historic restoration of the concrete finish and paint; replacement of the surface, borders, paving, and adjacent picnic tables; installation of signage; and rehabilitation of historical resources consistent with the Secretary of Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring and Reconstructing Historic Buildings (1995) Weeks and Grimmer, is within certain classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that it meets the criteria set forth in Sections 15301(d), 15302(c), 15303(e), and 15331 of the State CEQA Guidelines and Classes 1(c), 2(e), and 3(b) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G.

The proposed Project will not involve the removal of healthy, mature trees. The Project is not in a sensitive environment, and there are no cumulative impacts, unusual circumstances, or other limiting factors that would make the exemption inapplicable based on the proposed Project records.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

The Grant Project Agreement will be entered into and administered under authority delegated to the Director and pursuant to the Procedural Guide approved by the Board in 2009 only if all applicable conditions of the grant have been met. The Agreement will be approved as to form by County Counsel.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

These actions will have no impact on any other projects funded by RPOSD, but are required so that DPR may proceed with the Project in the First Supervisorial District, if all applicable conditions are met.

CONCLUSION

Please return one adopted copy of this Board letter to the Chief Executive Office, Facilities and Asset Management Division; and one to the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Russ Guiney", with a stylized flourish at the end.

RUSS GUINEY

Director

RG:JB:WRO:tb

c: Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors